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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

IGUCHI, Yuji et al.

Serial No.: 09/806,030

Filed: March 26, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: Betelhem Shewareged

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3374

For. RECORDING SHEET AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 9, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AF through AH were cited in a German Office Action dated November 20, 2003. A copy of the Office Action and English translation thereof is also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37

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CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made from PTO-1449 be made.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Donald W. Hanson Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 27,133

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO1449, Office Action w/translation, 3 References; Check for \$180

NFORMATION Atty. Docket No. 010148 Serial No. 09/806,030 **DISCLOSURE** Applicant(s): Yuji Iguchi et al **CITATION** PTO-1449 Group Art Unit: 1774 Filing Date: March 26, 2001 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Filing Date Class Sub Document No. Date Examiner Name TO 1700 (If appropriate) class Initial AA AB AC AD ΑE **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** Country Translation Document No. Date (Yes or No) DE see Office Action ΑF 695 01 864 T2 11/26/98 see Office Action 1/11/01 DE AG 100 31 346 A1 JΡ yes, computer 07-166465 A 6/27/95 AH translation Αl **OTHER DOCUMENTS** German Office Action with Translation dated 11/20/03 ΑK

Date Considered

ΑL

Examiner